

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-7, 9, 12-14, and 17-20 are amended and the Abstract is amended. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Gibbon et al. (hereinafter "Gibbon"), U.S. Patent No. 6,714,909. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to independent claim 17, the Office Action refers to col. 8, lines 45-60 of Gibbon. However, this section of Gibbon is directed to a Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM), one of four different classification methods use to segment or separate news from commercials using audio clip features. See col. 8, lines 18-26 of Gibbon. Thus, Gibbon does not disclose or suggest a method of calculating an importance measure for generating a synthetic key frame of video text as recited in independent claim 17, or the claimed combination of steps recited in independent claim 17.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 17 over Gibbon should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 18-20 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 17, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibbon in view of Nelson et al. (hereinafter "Nelson"), U.S. Patent No. 6,243,713. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Gibbon discloses a system and method for automating multimedia content indexing and retrieving. The Gibbon system and method provide the ability to segment multimedia data, such as news broadcasts, into retrievable units that are directly related to what users perceive as meaningful. Figure 13 of Gibbon shows an exemplary presentation for the semantic structure of a news program. On the left of the screen shown in Figure 13, different semantics are categorized in the form of a table of contents (commercials, news, and individual news stories, etc.). Each item is then listed color coded by an icon of a button in a hierarchical table shown on the right side of the screen in Figure 13. To play back a particular item, a user simply clicks on the button of a desired item in the hierarchical table of Figure 13. See col. 12, lines 55+ of Gibbon. A window as shown in Figure 14 of Gibbon plays back streaming content to a user when the user clicks on a particular item. In the play back window, the upper portion shows the video and the lower portion text synchronized with the video. See col. 13, lines 33-41 of Gibbon.

However, Gibbon does not disclose or suggest at least synthesizing a number of text areas into a synthetic key frame, as recited in independent claim 1, or synthesizing text areas into a synthetic key frame, as recited in independent claim 13. The Office Action refers to col. 13, lines 30-40 and Figure 14 when discussing this feature. However, as stated above, Figure 14 merely shows a window that plays back streaming content to a user when the user clicks on a particular item in the hierarchical table of Figure 13. Although col. 13, lines 37-38 state that either key frames or their original video stream is played back, there is no disclosure or suggestion of synthesizing a number of text areas into a synthetic key frame. Further, at col. 13, lines 42+, Gibbon teaches that for each extracted news story, two forms of representation may

be developed, one textual and another a combination of text with visual. However, the textual representation is merely a listing of keywords associated with the story. Again, there is no disclosure or suggestion of synthesizing a number of text areas into a synthetic key frame. Further, Gibbon does not disclose or suggest calculating importance measures according to weights for each of the extracted text areas, as recited in independent claim 1, or calculating importance measures of the text areas by applying weights according to a certain rule. The Examiner refers to col. 2, lines 1-30 of Gibbon. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion in this section of Gibbon of calculating importance measures according to weights for each of a plurality of extracted text areas, or calculating importance measures of the text areas by applying weights according to a certain rule.

Additionally, the Examiner admits that Gibbon does not teach selecting a number of text areas to be synthesized based upon the importance measures in the order of higher importance. The Examiner then applies the teachings of Nelson, referring to col. 6, lines 5-50 of Nelson, and concludes that “[i]t would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified ‘713 into ‘909 to provide a way, wherein selecting the number of text areas to be synthesized based upon the importance measures in the order of higher importance.” However, col. 6, lines 5-50 of Nelson merely teach that an index of multimedia data according to Nelson’s invention comprises a set of tokens. That is, Nelson teaches that a text component (e.g., paragraph of a text) may be indexed by a number of tokens, each representing one or more words of the text component. Nelson teaches that these tokens represent data in a multimedia component or document, but themselves do not actually appear in the document. There is no disclosure or suggestion in this section of Nelson of selecting a

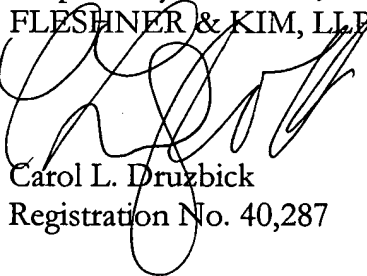
number of text areas to be synthesized based upon important measures in the order of higher importance as asserted by the Examiner.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 13 over Gibbon and Nelson should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-12 and 14-16 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 13, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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